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X S E C R E T 261218Z MAY 69 CITE (BANGKOK) 3055

SAIGON INFO: DIRECTOR, (VIENTIANE),

(MANILA), 13-1 26 MAY 69 IN 66602

(HONG KONG), (DJAKARTA), (TOKYO), (SEOUL),

REF: DIRECTOR 88114 (SENT (BANGKOK) ONLY)

1. WE HAVE BEEN PLAGUED FOR SOME WEEKS NOW

BY MR. MITCHELL L. WERBELL III, VICE PRESIDENT AND  
DIRECTOR OF R AND D OF SIONICS, ATLANTA, GEORGIA.WERBELL DESCRIBES HIMSELF AS A COUNTERINSURGENCY  
EXPERT, HAS A VARIETY OF WEAPONS TO DISPLAY, CLAIMS  
TO BE A RETIRED COLONEL, AND LAST WEEK INTRODUCED  
HIMSELF AT A LOCAL NIGHTCLUB AS CHIEF OF WOFIRM IN  
THAILAND.2. WERBELL HAS A HISTORY OF SHOWING UP IN  
TROUBLE SPOTS WHERE HE CAN MAKE A FAST BUCK. HE  
IMPLIES THAT HE IS U.S. GOVT CONNECTED AND PRESENTS  
A DEMONSTRATION OF A VARIETY OF EXOTIC  
WEAPONS THAT NEVER FAILS TO IMPRESS. REF  
DESCRIBES HIM AS AN UNSCRUPULOUS OPPORTUNIST WITH  
A REPUTATION FOR LIVING BEYOND HIS MEANS.**SECRET**from e/151C  
Bb

12/10

1

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18-5  
PAGE 2 (BANGKOK) 3055 S E C R E T

3. WERBELL IS AN AMERICAN CITIZEN, BORN 1919, — 8 March 1918  
 Phila.  
 SERVED IN OSS, HAS SHAVEN HEAD AND HANDLEBAR  
 MUSTACHE. REF ADVISES THAT FULL DETAILS OF HIS  
 BACKGROUND SHOULD NOT BE PASSED TO [REDACTED] SINCE  
 HE IS U.S. CITIZEN. HOWEVER, STATES THAT [REDACTED]  
 CAN BE INFORMED, SHOULD HE APPEAR IN YOUR AREA,  
 THAT HE HAS AN UNSAVORY REPUTATION, HAS NO U.S.  
 GOVT CONNECTIONS, AND ANY DEALINGS WITH HIM SHOULD  
 BE APPROACHED WITH EXTREME CAUTION.

4. FOR SAIGON: WE UNDERSTAND THAT WERBELL  
 RECENTLY VISITED SAIGON AND DID HIS THING WITH GEN.  
 ABRAMS, WHO WAS SUITABLY IMPRESSED, AND WERBELL  
 IS NOW SETTING UP A SNIPER TRAINING PROGRAM.

5. FILE: 201-259910

S E C R E T

SECRET

3/17/